Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 06885 232207Z

70
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

    TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9841

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 6885

E.O. 11652: NGDS
TAGS: ETRD, CO
SUBJECT: TRADE CONSULTATION IN COLOMBIA

1. I DISCUSSED TRADE CONSULTATION MATTER FURTHER WITH MINISTER
DEVELOPMENT. HE IS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH IDEA OF HAVING
SENIOR LEVEL CONSULTATIONS IN OCTOBER (OR EVEN NOV IF
NECESSARY) WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS BEING
MADE DURING STATE VISIT AND WISHES TO PROCEED ON THAT BASIS.
HE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE SUCH CONSULTATIONS TO TAKE PLACE IN
BOGOTA.
2. AT SAME TIME MINISTER EARNESTLY DESIRES SOME TECHNICAL
LEVEL DISCUSSIONS OF TRADE ACT NOW, BECAUSE HE FEELS NEED TO
PREPARE HIS PEOPLE FOR STATE VISIT AND TO BE SURE THEY (AND
PRESIDENT) ARE ADEQUATELY INFORMED. IT IS NOT THAT HE EN-
VISAGES PROBLEMS; HE SIMPLY WANTS TO BE INFORMED. ACCORDING-
LY HE WOULD STILL APPRECIATE IT IF ONE OR TWO TECHNICAL LEVEL
OFFICIALS COULD COME TO BOGOTA DURING FIRST HALF OF AUGUST
FOR SUCH TALKS. MINISTER HAS PROMISED TO GIVE ME WITH DAY
OR TWO, A LIST OF SPECIFIC ITEMS HE WOULD LIKE DISCUSSED
AND MORE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS AS TO DATES.
3. IN EFFECT THEREFORE MINISTER WOULD LIKE ALTERNATIVE C
REFTEL, AND I CONCUR BELIEVING IT TO BE THE BEST OPTION.
ACCORDINGLY, I ASK THAT WE PROCEED ALONG THIS LINE AND
THAT AN APPROPRIATE "TEAM", DEPENDING UPON PROPOSED AGENDA
MINISTER GIVES ME, PLAN TO VISIT BOGOTA IN EARLY AUGUST.
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WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE AS TO MOST CONVENIENT TIMEING FROM

OUR SIDE FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE MINISTER.
4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF LATER SENIOR LEVEL CONSULTATIONS MADE
DURING STATE VISIT (AND THERFORE PRESENTED AS AGREEMENT OF
TWO PRESIDENTS TO PROCEED ALONG THESE LINES) WOULD SEEM TO
ME TO WARRANT CONSIDERATION OF HIGH LEVEL GROUP, PERHAPS
HEADED BY UNDER SEC ROBINSON AND INCLUDING DEP SEC FISHLOW,
ET AL.
VAKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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